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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 11 November 1992 from the First Deputy Foreign Minister of Georgia addressed to the Secretary-General

The Government of Georgia would appreciate it if you could circulate the attached text of the letter of the Chairman of the Parliament, Head of State of the Republic of Georgia, Mr. E. Shevardnadze, as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 69, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) T. JAPARIDZE
First Deputy Foreign Minister

ANNEX

Letter from the Chairman of the Parliament and Head of State of Georgia addressed to the Secretary-General

Allow me to express on behalf of the Georgian people great appreciation for your efforts to bring peace to my country and the entire world. The United Nations fact-finding mission that has recently visited Georgia is perceived here as an important step towards the peaceful settlement of the conflict. So is also the fact that two of the delegation members have remained here to do further work in this direction.

As regards the situation in Georgia, it is still tense. It is quite apparent that the Georgian side has strictly followed the principles and fulfilled the obligations outlined in the 3 September Agreement, while the other sides have violated them constantly. As a Member of the United Nations the Republic of Georgia considers it its duty to be true to the obligations it has assumed. There has been a considerable interest both on the part of the United Nations and the European structures with respect to our problems. I am, however, sorry to say that so far no concrete steps have been taken to solve the conflict. In fact the confrontation is intensifying and the number of casualties grows daily. The Abkhaz separatists, along with mercenaries citizens of other countries, continue to carry out military operations. The rest of Georgia is engulfed by a surge of refugees that has originated in Abkhazia. Yet, we still invest our greatest hopes in international organizations, first and foremost in the Security Council's prompt and effective response, since time is running out and we are reaching a critical threshold. I do know that the capabilities of the United Nations are somewhat limited, but even reaffirmation by the Security Council of its previous resolution could be a positive step and one conducive to the peaceful settlement of the conflict at this stage.

Unfortunately, my prediction regarding the possible broadening of the conflict zone in the Caucasus is coming true: as you probably know, hostilities between North Ossetia and the Ingush have already begun, whereas the region has no mechanism whatsoever capable of confining a conflict, let alone settling it. Should another Caucasus War occur, it will spell catastrophe not only for the Caucasus.

The example of Yugoslavia proves once again how destructive the consequences of a delay can be. If a full-scale war is unleashed in the Caucasus it will take the world community a far greater effort to stop it, since the Caucasus is on the periphery of Europe and the area is virtually a "virgin land" in terms of cooperation by international forces.

Therefore I request that you take another look at the situation so that new practical steps may be taken along the difficult road leading to peace and stability throughout the world.

(Signed) Eduard SHEVARDNADZE
Chairman of the Parliament
Head of State of the Republic of Georgia